for Homoeopathic Pharmacists working at present in the dispensaries/hospitals on the basis of their practical experience, if so, the outcome thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that attention is not given by Government in considering the Homoeopathic Pharmacy course and formation of its Pharmacy Council for the career improvement of Homoeopathic Pharmacists in the country like their Counterparts, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the matter of advancement of the Homoeopathic Pharmacy Course Education and formation of its council for Homoeopathic Pharmacists to avoid the recruitment of Homoeo-pharmacists on experience basis; and

(d) whether any decision has been taken in this regard so far, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Homoeopathic graduates are adequately trained for the purposes of running Homoeopathic dispensaries and hospitals without the assistance of a person having specialised education in Homoeopathic pharmacy.

Pending cases of adulteration in the Country

2859. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that adulteration is quite common and wide-spread in the country at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, has proved ineffective in checking the adulteration;

(c) if so, the number of cases pending in various parts of the country at present; and

(d) the steps being taken to check adulteration and liquidate these pending cases ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) On the basis of information available from the States/U. Ts. 3,381 out of 39,278, i.e. 11.6% samples of food items examined during 1992 were found to be adulterated/misbranded. As on 31-12-1992, 20,144 cases were pending under the PFA Act.

(d) Measures taken to check adulteration and liquidate pending cases include advising States/U. Ts. to establish special courts for dealing with PFA cases speedily, establishing separate legal cells for proper presentation of cases in courts and ensuring effective quality control of food items at every stage.

Using of harmful chemicals in Shampoos

2860. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that certain shampoos cause hair loss and cancer;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the revealation in this regard made in the journal "Consumer Confrontation" published by Consumer Education and Research society, Ahmedabad; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any tests have been conducted to find out as to whether the manufactures are using harmful chemicals like Triethanolamine(TEA)/Diethanolamine if so, what action has been taken to prevent the use of harmful chemicals;

(d) whether Government referred the matter to scientists in the Indian Council of Medical Research for expert opinion; and

(e) if the answer is negative, what steps are being taken to prevent manufacture and sale of such shampoos till expert opinion is made available to the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Medical Services to General Public Living Beyond NDMC Areas

2861. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether clinics, dispensaries and hospitals under New Delhi Municipal Committee (NDMC) provide medical services to general public living beyond NDMC areas;